

## Great Easton Village Hall Chairman's Report - March 2021

The start of the last year was marked by the lockdown due to the Covid19 pandemic. The hall closed for business on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March and whilst closed, was used for storage for the Village Shop.

Through the year, having created a Covid safe set of procedures (in line with Government guidance), when the easing of lockdown restrictions allowed we managed to welcome a handful of bookings. However, this was short lived and the hall has been unused for the vast majority of the year.

We have been fortunate to qualify for over £20,000 in government grants due to the ongoing pandemic, so we have not had to worry about the hall finances.

Thanks to the regular Garden Task Force who kept the garden in good order throughout the year, either individually or as a team when permitted. Special thanks to Bob Mitchell and Paul Brittain for their winter hedge clearance. We have also had to search for a new grass cutter as Barry Penfold has retired this year - Lorraine Robins has kindly offered to take over those duties.

Since the Church moved out of the meeting room, there have been discussions about its possible future use and Alice is leading plans to explore the use of the room as a store for the Great Easton historic archive, as well as ensuring that the room remains usable for hire by other groups when needed.

I would like to thank Alice for organising the highly successful "What I am looking forward to" window art exhibition and also thank all those that have contributed.

As always, I would like to thank the committee for their help and support through this challenging year. Whilst we have not had the fundraising events to organise, we have needed to review our processes to ensure we are able to offer a Covid safe environment when we are permitted to open our doors again.

Looking forward to this year, hopefully we will be able to hold some events later in the Covid19 pandemic situation improves, but we will hold off planning anything too far in advance.

Finally, I would like to thank Cath for the donation from the Line Dancing group which funds the hanging baskets and Alice for getting and maintaining them and also the following for their kind donations:

- Margaret Stamp from the sale of the Great Easton Calendars
- Phillip Kendal (100 club winnings)
- Anne Lang